



Australian Bureau of Statistics

1307.4 - South Australian Economic Indicators, Aug 2004

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 02/08/2004

Summary

Main Features

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication provides an up-to-date overview of the South Australian economy and contrasts the State's performance with that of the Australian economy. It provides details of movements in a range of economic and social indicators.

OVERVIEW

The data in this Overview are presented in trend terms, unless otherwise stated.

Included in this overview are Statistical Summary tables showing comparisons between South Australia and Australia for a variety of economic and social indicators. Also included is a State Summary, showing the performance of all States and Territories for selected indicators.

Further detail on all the indicators shown below can be obtained by accessing the latest Data Cube attached to this publication. This Data Cube is available within the **Related Links** section on this page.

IMPORTANT CHANGE

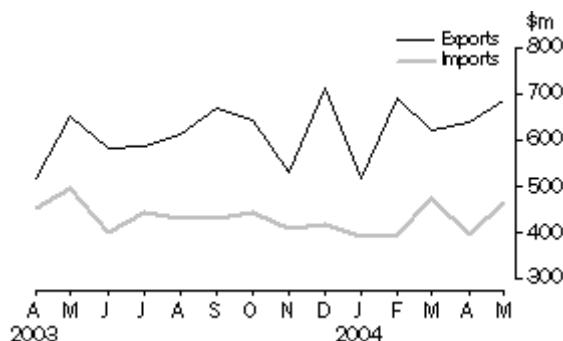
June quarter 2004 is the last quarter that the ABS will be compiling the **Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other than House Building**. This data appears in the Statistical Summary (Part 2) of this publication. Users of this index, who are interested in discussing alternative indicators of price changes for these commodities, can contact Steve Whennan on Canberra (02) 6252 6251, or email <steve.whennan@abs.gov.au>.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The value of South Australian merchandise exports (in original terms) for the month of May 2004 was \$685.7m. This was an increase of 7.4% from the previous month and 4.9% more than the value of exports in May 2003 (\$653.6m).

The value of South Australian merchandise imports (in original terms) for May 2004 was \$468.1m. This was an increase of 17.6% from the \$398.0m recorded in April 2004, and 5.7% less than the May 2003 figure of \$496.3m.

Merchandise Exports and Imports

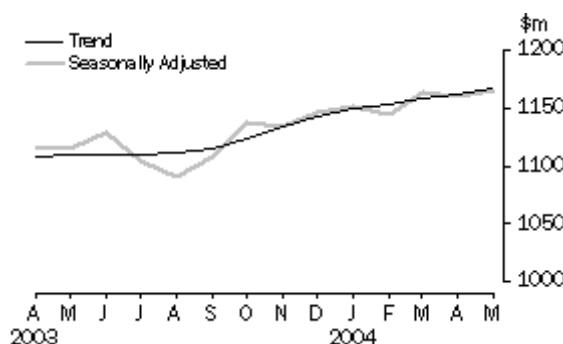


- See International Merchandise Imports, Australia (Timeseries, cat. no. 5439.0), International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia (cat. no. 5368.0)

CONSUMPTION AND INVESTMENT

Retail turnover continued its steady increase, with a positive movement of 0.4% from April 2004 (\$1,162.0m) to \$1,166.4m in May 2004. In the twelve month period from May 2003, total retail turnover increased by 5.0% from \$1,110.5m.

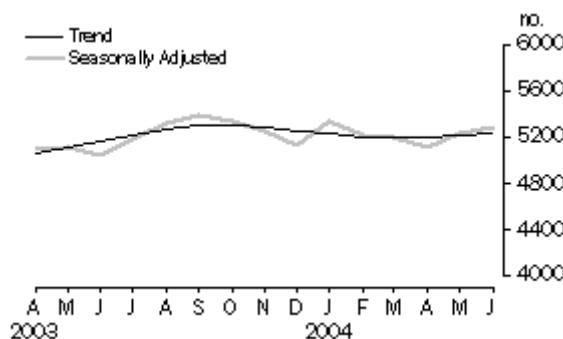
Retail Turnover



- See Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501)

June 2004 saw a total of 5,232 new motor vehicle sales - a rise of 0.3% on the previous month. The June figure is 1.2% higher than the new vehicles sales recorded in June last year (5,172).

New Motor Vehicle Sales

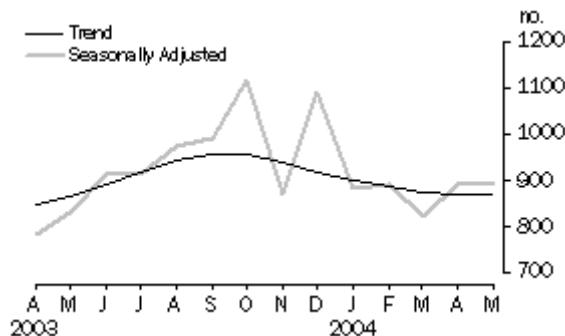


- See Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (cat. no. 9314.0.55.001)

HOUSING

In May 2004 the estimated total number of dwelling units approved in South Australia was 869, slightly lower than April 2004 (870) but slightly higher than the estimated total approved in May 2003 (864).

Dwelling Units Approved

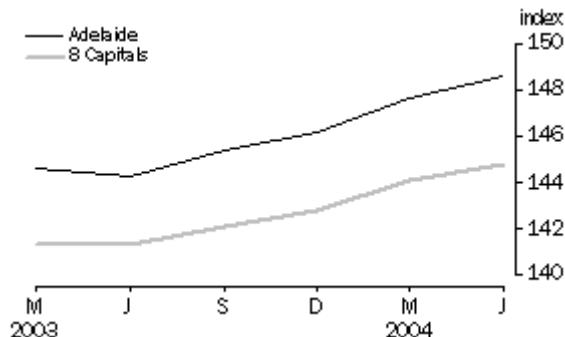


- See Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0)

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index in Adelaide for the June quarter 2004 was 148.6, an increase of 3.0% on the level recorded for the same period in 2003 and up 0.6% on the March quarter 2004.

Consumer Price Index

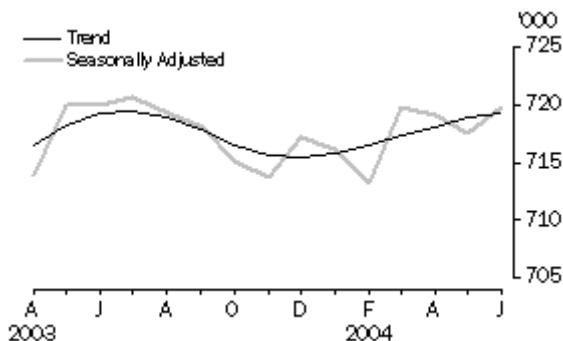


- See Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0)

LABOUR FORCE AND DEMOGRAPHY

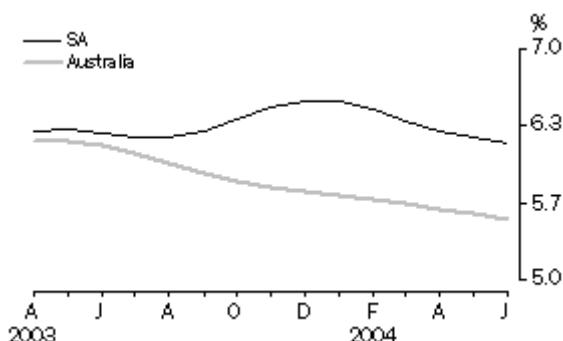
The estimate of employed persons in South Australia was 719,300 in June 2004, slightly lower than the peak in July 2003 (719,600) and similar to the level of twelve months ago (719,400). The total number of persons employed full-time in South Australia was 496,200 in June 2004, lower than the June 2003 estimate of 505,400.

Employed Persons



The estimate of the unemployment rate for South Australia was 6.2% in June 2004, slightly lower than the June 2003 estimate of 6.3%. The estimate of the participation rate in South Australia was 61.4% in June 2004, continuing the decline from the most recent peak of 62.0% between May and July 2003.

Unemployment Rate - Trend

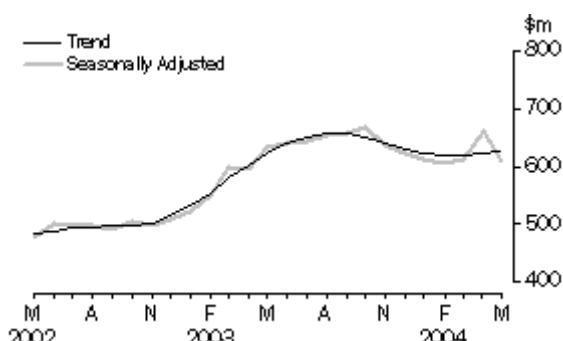


- See Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

FINANCIAL MARKETS

The value of secured housing finance commitments (excluding alterations and additions, and including refinancing) was \$625.5m in May 2004. This was an increase of 0.5% from the previous month and 0.2% more than the value of commitments in May 2003 (\$624.1m).

Secured Housing Finance Commitments (a)



(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

- See Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (cat. no. 5609.0)

STATISTICAL SUMMARY Part 1

Dwelling unit approvals									
Original (no.)	May 04	885	10.9	7.8	15,185	10.5	-0.1	5.8	7
Trend (no.)	May 04	869	-0.2	0.6	14,504	0.5	-0.1	6.0	7
Dwelling units commenced (no.)	Mar qtr 04	2,287	-17.5	-3.3	40,304	-12.9	4.7	5.7	8
Value of non-residential building approvals- trend (\$m)	May 04	84.8	17.0	-10.1	1,242.4	1.2	-12.8	6.8	7777
Value of total building activity									
Commenced (\$m)	Mar qtr 04	564.0	-42.8	-0.5	13,058.9	-7.8	12.6	4.3	8
Work done (\$m)	Mar qtr 04	718.0	-3.2	24.2	12,752.4	-7.4	14.0	5.6	8
Work yet to be done (\$m)	Mar qtr 04	1,282.1	-9.4	28.6	23,600.3	3.9	14.9	5.4	8
Value of engineering construction work done (\$m)	Mar qtr 04	368.7	-16.0	-18.4	6,566.1	-6.0	10.7	5.6	9
Manufacturing production									
Red meat trend (tonnes)	Mar qtr 04	55,744	0.7	-7.6	759,470	2.4	-0.3	7.3	11
Mineral exploration expenditure (other than for petroleum) (\$m)	Mar qtr 04	7.1	-26.0	18.3	167.3	-16.1	9.1	4.2	12

STATISTICAL SUMMARY Part 2

Indicator	South Australia				Australia				Source index	
	Period	Number	% change from		Number	Previous period	% change from			
			Previous period	Same period previous year			Same period previous year	SA as a % of Australia		
Prices (a)										
CPI- All groups (index no.)	Jun qtr 04	148.6	0.6	3.0	144.8	0.5	2.5	..	13	
Price index of materials used in house building (index no.)	Jun qtr 04	140.6	1.7	2.8	136.1	1.3	3.0	..	14	
Price index of materials used in building other than houses (index no.)	Jun qtr 04	129.7	2.9	3.7	130.7	3.0	4.0	..	14	
Price index of established houses (index no.)	Mar qtr 04	227.1	3.0	22.8	251.3	2.5	17.9	..	15	
Price index of project homes (index no.)	Mar qtr 04	168.3	2.1	7.4	155.8	1.4	7.7	..	15	
Labour force and demography										
Population (resident at end qtr) ('000)	Dec qtr 03	1,531.4	0.2	0.6	20,008.7	0.3	1.3	7.7	16	
Natural increase of the population ('000)	Dec qtr 03	1,227.0	2.7	-17.3	31,374.0	11.9	2.6	3.9	16	

Labour Force										
Original ('000)	Jun 04	768.6	0.6	0.1	10,216.3	0.1	1.5	7.5	17	
Trend ('000)	Jun 04	766.8	0.0	-0.1	10,238.1	0.1	1.8	7.5	17	
Employed persons										
Original ('000)	Jun 04	720.2	0.6	0.0	9,654.6	0.1	2.1	7.5	17	
Trend ('000)	Jun 04	719.3	0.1	-0.0	9,672.0	0.1	2.4	7.4	17	
Participation rate										
Original (b) (%)	Jun 04	61.6	0.3	-0.5	63.5	0.0	0.0	..	17	
Trend (b) (%)	Jun 04	61.4	-0.1	-0.6	63.6	0.0	0.1	..	17	
Unemployment rate										
Original (b) (%)	Jun 04	6.3	0.0	0.0	5.5	0.0	-0.5	..	17	
Trend (b) (%)	Jun 04	6.2	0.0	-0.1	5.5	-0.1	-0.7	..	17	
Job vacancies ('000)	May 04	6.0	9.6	4.0	122.7	16.1	23.4	4.9	18	
Industrial disputes ('000)	Mar qtr 04	4.9	11.4	133.3	76.8	-49.3	15.8	6.4	19	
working days lost)	04									
Income										
Average weekly earnings (full-time; ordinary time)										
Original (\$)	Feb qtr 04	868.10	0.0	2.0	947.80	1.0	5.3	..	20	
Trend (\$)	Feb qtr 04	866.10	-0.1	2.7	948.00	1.0	4.9	..	20	
Wage cost index (total hourly rate excluding bonuses)										
(c) (index no.)	Mar qtr 04	123.9	0.7	4.0	123.7	0.8	3.6	..	21	
Financial markets										
Secured housing finance (d)										
Original (\$m)	May 04	623.5	0.0	-7.1	10,323.4	8.2	-2.5	6.0	22	
Trend (\$m)	May 04	625.5	0.5	0.2	9,720.7	0.3	-1.6	6.4	22	
Finance commitments										
Personal (\$m)	May 04	392.3	-13.1	-0.7	6,742.0	7.5	6.7	5.8	23	
Commercial (\$m)	May 04	827.6	-34.1	2.1	22,878.0	-5.1	3.8	3.6	23	
Lease (\$m)	May 04	12.4	-31.1	-5.3	464.0	1.8	-25.5	2.7	23	
Interest rates (b)										
Banks - new housing loans (%)	June 04	..	..	..	7.05	0.0	0.50		24	
Banks - business loans										
Small, medium businesses (e) (%)	June 04	..	..	..	8.85	0.0	0.50		24	
Large business (%)	June 04	..	..	..	8.85	0.0	0.50		24	

(a) Base year of each index 1989-90 = 100.

(b) Change is shown in terms of percentage points.

(c) Base year of index Sep 1997 = 100.

(d) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

(e) Rate for business loans over \$50,000.

STATE SUMMARY

Indicator	Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Source index
SELECTED INDICATORS										
CPI- All groups(a) (index no.)	Jun qtr	145.5	143.9	146.3	148.6	141.0	144.3	139.6	144.8	13
Participation rate trend (%)	Jun 04	62.7	63.4	64.9	61.4	65.9	59.3	70.9	71.6	17

Unemployment rate trend (%)	Jun 04	5.5	5.6	5.8	6.2	5.0	6.8	5.6	3.5	17
Average weekly earnings (full-time adults; ordinary time) trend (\$)	Feb qtr	990.00	955.00	886.70	866.10	947.80	835.40	934.80	1,070.40	20

SELECTED INDICATORS PER HEAD OF POPULATION(b)

State final demand Chain volume measures trend (c) (\$'000)	Mar qtr	10.1	10.1	9.6	9.2	10.3	8.6	13.9	16.9	1
Retail turnover										
Current prices original (\$)	May 04	799.5	737.5	802.0	736.2	763.5	676.9	810.9	957.2	3
Current prices trend (\$)	May 04	811.5	768.5	828.8	761.7	786.6	703.1	810.0	965.6	3
New motor vehicle sales										
trend (no. per '000 population)	June 04	3.8	4.2	4.4	3.4	3.7	3.4	3.9	3.7	4
Private new capital expenditure										
Current prices trend (\$)	Mar qtr	520.4	596.4	562.7	576.6	1,143.2	337.5	2,476.1	399.9	5
Dwelling unit approvals										
Original (no. per '000 population)	May 04	0.583	0.812	0.789	0.578	1.100	0.640	0.669	2.275	7
Trend (no. per '000 population)	May 04	0.571	0.758	0.871	0.568	0.984	0.606	0.498	0.750	7
Secured housing finance (d) (\$)	May 04	618.8	439.0	507.4	407.2	541.5	307.5	344.2	437.4	22

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS PERIOD

State final demand Chain volume measures trend (c)	Mar qtr	0.9	1.5	2.0	0.5	1.0	1.7	0.9	0.1	1
Retail turnover										
Current prices original	May 04	1.5	-0.4	1.5	-1.2	-0.4	-3.4	5.3	2.3	3
Current prices trend	May 04	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.7	-0.3	3
New motor vehicle sales trend	June 04	-0.2	-0.0	1.1	0.3	0.2	4.4	1.0	-0.1	4
Private new capital expenditure										
Current prices trend (e)	Mar qtr	-0.9	-1.6	-2.1	-8.4	-0.4	0.0	-2.0	-8.5	5
Dwelling unit approvals										
Original (%)	May 04	8.0	5.3	-8.0	10.9	36.3	5.5	44.6	202.1	7
Trend (%)	May 04	0.1	1.4	-2.9	-0.2	-0.1	3.5	4.4	7.1	7
CPI- All groups (%)	Jun qtr	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.9	0.4	0.6	13
Participation rate trend (e)	Jun 04	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.1	-0.2	-0.1	17
Unemployment rate trend (e)	Jun 04	0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	17
Average weekly earnings (full-time adults; ordinary time) trend	Feb qtr	1.0	1.0	1.3	-0.1	0.9	0.1	1.2	0.4	20
Secured housing finance (d)	May 04	18.1	1.4	4.2	0.0	2.1	7.4	-5.3	5.3	22

(a) Base year of index 1989-90=100.

(b) The latest quarterly estimate of Australian resident population has been used to calculate ratios for subsequent periods.

(c) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2001-02.

(d) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

(e) Change is shown in terms of percentage points.

SOURCE INDEX FOR STATISTICAL & STATE SUMMARY TABLES

- 1 Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (Cat. no. 5206.0) - and ABS data available on request
- 2 International Trade in Goods and Services (Cat. no. 5368.0) and International Merchandise Imports (Cat. no. 5349.0). Further detail available on request and in the associated datacubes.
- 3 Retail Trade, Australia (Cat. no. 8501.0) Monthly
- 4 Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (Cat. no. 9314.0.55.001) Monthly
- 5 Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (Cat. no. 5625.0) Quarterly - and Ausstats data.
- 6 Tourist Accommodation, Australia (Cat. no. 8635.0) Quarterly
- 7 Building Approvals, Australia (Cat. no. 8731.0) Monthly
- 8 Building Activity, Australia (Cat. no. 8752.0) Quarterly
- 9 Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (Cat. no. 8762.0) Quarterly
- 10 Manufacturing Production, Australia (Cat. no. 8301.0) Quarterly
- 11 Livestock Products, Australia (Cat. no. 7215.0) Quarterly - and ABS data available on request.
- 12 Actual and Expected Private Mineral Exploration, Australia (Cat. no. 8412.0) Quarterly
- 13 Consumer Price Index (Cat. no. 6401.0) Quarterly
- 14 Producer Price Indexes, Australia (Cat. no. 6427.0) Quarterly
- 15 House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6416.0) Quarterly
- 16 Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat. no. 3101.0) Quarterly
- 17 Labour Force, Australia (Cat. no. 6202.0) Monthly
- 18 Job Vacancies, Australia (Cat. no. 6354.0) Quarterly
- 19 Industrial Disputes, Australia (Cat. no. 6321.0) Monthly
- 20 Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (Cat. no. 6302.0) Quarterly
- 21 Wage Cost Index, Australia (Cat. no. 6345.0) Quarterly

- 22 Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (Cat. no. 5609.0) Monthly
- 23 Lending Finance, Australia (Cat. no. 5671.0) Monthly - and ABS data available on request.
- 24 Reserve Bank of Australia Bulletin

About this Release

ABOUT THIS RELEASE

Provides an up-to-date overview of what has been happening in the South Australian economy and contrasts the state's performance with that of the Australian economy. Provides details of movements in a range of economic indicators and also contains time series information.

Changing to electronic format, from the Feb 2004 release.

© Commonwealth of Australia

All data and other material produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) constitutes Commonwealth copyright administered by the ABS. The ABS reserves the right to set out the terms and conditions for the use of such material. Unless otherwise noted, all material on this website – except the ABS logo, the Commonwealth Coat of Arms, and any material protected by a trade mark – is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 2.5 Australia licence